

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 20 and ending on page 5, line 5 with the following paragraph:

One method of optical sampling without splitting either the sampling pulse or the user input signal wherein wider spectral acceptance is obtained using a shorter crystal and a three wavelength conversion scheme is described in co-pending U.S. Application Serial No. 09/885,154, which was filed on June 20, 2001, and is now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,785,471, Application Serial No. _____ entitled "Optical Sampling Using Intermediate Second harmonic Frequency Generation" (~~PDN 10010305-1, 47429-00018~~), which is incorporated herein by reference. It is noted in this context that just as stated in the co-pending U.S. Application, commercially available probe pulse sources usually are in the 1550-1560 nm range whereas user input signals in optical communications are in the 1550 nm range. In the co-pending U.S. Application however, efficiency of conversion of the optical input signal for sampling is somewhat sacrificed.